REMARKS

The Office examined claims 1-7, 14-18 and rejected same. With this paper, claims 1-7, 16 and 17 are amended, claims 14, 15 and 18 are cancelled, and new claims 21 and 22 are added.

Rejections under 35 USC §102

Claims 1-7, 14-18 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Singhal et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,925,481, Singhal hereinafter). Of those rejected claims, claims 1, 16 and 17 are independent.

With this paper, claim 1 is amended. The amended claim 1 recites a method. The method comprises (1) generating a request at a user terminal device for retrieving information stored in at least one data store in another device, (2) transmitting the generated request to the other device, and (3) applying retrieved information to configure one or more applications executable at said user terminal device to enable said applications accessing said at least one data store to obtain data of at least one content type therefrom. It is further specified that the request comprises at least one data store descriptor and a command. The descriptor is suitable for characterizing the at least one data store. The descriptor identifies at least one content type of data stored in the at least one data store. The command is for instructing the other device to identify at least one data store matching the descriptor, to retrieve information relating to the at least one identified data store and to return the retrieved information to the user terminal device (newly added feature underlined, support for the feature can be found on page 5, lines 21-25 of the originally filed specification).

Singhal discloses a support framework, which enables a wireless interface device (WID) to access and manipulate data stored in a remote network device such as a web server, a file servers, a desktop PC, and the like. A data manipulation server (DMS) provides information about what services may be performed and how to invoke

those services. The DMS may provide data manipulation services either directly or indirectly through one or more protocol proxies.

Fig. 3 of Singhal shows a flow diagram of the method for providing the data manipulation service. Upon a WID user's initiation, the client software on the WID issues a request. The request is routed to a protocol proxy, which forwards the request to an appropriate information source (e.g. a HTTP request for a web content, which is received by a HTTP proxy, is forwarded by the HTTP proxy to a web content server). A response from the information source is received at the forwarding protocol proxy. The protocol proxy then determines which services are available to the WID. It formats the information to include access to the services, and forwards the information to the requesting WID.

The present invention is similar to Singhal in that the user terminal device or the WID transmits a request for information and receives information from a remote entity. However, in the present invention, the retrieved information is applied to configure one or more applications executable at the user terminal device to enable the application accessing the at least one identified data store to obtain data of the at least one content type therefrom, whereas in Singhal, the information is NOT used for configuring one or more applications executable at the WID.

The above-mentioned method of Singhal is used in manipulating data stored in a remote entity. This means the WID is already configured such that the communications between the WID and the DMS or the protocol proxy (communication paths 1, 7, 8 and 12 in Fig.1 of Singhal) are enabled. The WID merely receives information formatted by the DMS or the protocol proxy according to the configuration (step 350 of Fig. 3), and presents the formatted information to the user of the WID. In other words, the configuration of the WID must have been performed, so that it may properly communicate with the DMS, or the one or more protocol proxies and agents each having specific tasks in the WID support framework of Singhal.

The present invention is exemplified in a flow diagram shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is different from Fig. 3 of Singhal at least in the step S116, which is absent in Fig. 3 of Singhal. In the step S116, the applications of the requesting device capable to access data of the one or more identified data stores are configured in accordance with the information relating to the data store(s) contained in the response (page 19, lines 5-7 of the originally filed specification).

Based on the above, Singhal does not teach "*applying retrieved information to configure one or more applications executable at said user terminal device to enable said applications accessing said at least one identified data store to obtain data of at least one content type therefrom.*" Applicant respectfully requests the rejection of claim 1 be reconsidered and withdraw.

Independent claims 16 and 17 are also amended to incorporate the above-recited feature. Withdrawal of the rejection to claims 16 and 17 is respectfully requested.

Applicant also respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection to all dependent claims of the application due to their dependency to a patentable independent claim.

New Claims

New claims 21 and 22 are added. The support for new claim 21 can be found on page 5, lines 21-25 and page 16, lines 10-18 of the originally filed specification. The support for new claim 22 can be found on page 16, lines 1-8, page 21, lines 12-23 and page 27, lines 24-26 of the originally filed specification. These claims are believed to be patentable at least due to their dependency to a patentable main claim.
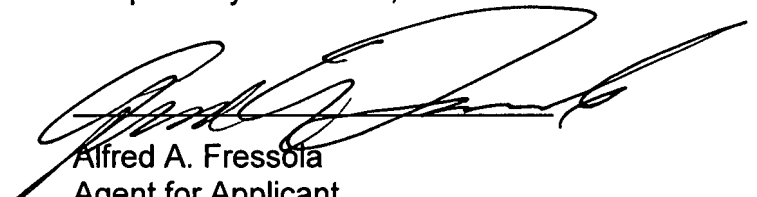
Conclusion

For all the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all of the claims of the application are allowable, and their passage to issue is earnestly solicited. Applicant's agent urges the Examiner to call to discuss the present response if anything in the present response is unclear or unpersuasive.

The undersigned respectfully submits that no fee is due for filing this Response. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to deposit account 23-0442 any fee deficiency required to submit this paper.

Respectfully submitted,

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